

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 31st May 1913.

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UBIYA PAPERS.

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PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

LIST OF VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS.

(Corrected up to the 1st January 1913.)

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BENGAL.					
1	"Bangaratna"	Krishnagar	Weekly	Kanal Lal Das, Hindu, Karmokar; age 38 years	1,500
2	"Bangavasi"	Calcutta	Do.	Bihari Lal Sarkar, Kayastha, age 56 years; Hari Mohan Mukherji, Brahmin, age 45 years; Satyendra Kumar Basu.	15,000
3	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura	Do.	Rama Nath Mukherji, v.L.M.S., Brahmin, age 53 years; Viswanath Mukharji, B.L., Brahmin, age 40 years.	453
4	"Barisal Hitaishi"	Barisal	Do.	Durga Mohan Sen, Hindu, Baidya, age 35 years	600
5	"Banga Janani"	Rangpur (Bhotmari)	Do.	Sasi Mohan Adhikari, Hindu, Baidya, age 40 years	0
6	"Basumatl"	Calcutta	Do.	Sashi Bhusan Mukherji; Hari Pada Adhikari, age 41 years	10,000
7	"Bharat Chitra"	Calcutta	Do.	Pran Krishna Pyne	800
8	"Birbhum Hitaishi"	Bolepur (Birbhum)	Do.	Dibakar Banerji, Hindu, Brahmin; age 43 years	323
9	"Birbhum Varta"	Suri (Do.)	Do.	Debendra Nath Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 39 years	300
10	"Birbhum Vasi"	Rampurhat (Do.)	Do.	Nil Ratan Mukherji, B.A., Brahmin, age 45 years	670
11	"Biswadut"	Howrah	Do.	Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhuri; Hindu, Kayastha; age 37 years.	1,000
12	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	Burdwan	Do.	Probodhananda Sarkar, B.L., Kayastha, age 31 years	1,000
13	"Chabbis Pargana Vartavaha."	Bhowanipore	Do.	Hem Chandra Nag, Kayastha, age 39 years	500 to 700
14	"Charumihir"	Mymensingh	Do.	Baikuntha Nath Sen, B.L., Kayastha, age 48 years	800
15	"Chinsura Varata-vaha."	Chinsura	Do.	Dinanath Mukherji, Brahmin, age 47 years	1,000
16	"Dainik Chandrika"	Calcutta	Daily, except on Thursday.	Hari Das Dutt, Hindu, Kayastha, age 43 years and Kshetra Nath Sen.	2,000
17	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	Weekly	Satiya Bhusan Dutt Roy, Baidya, age 46 years	600
18	"Dacca Prakash"	Do.	Do.	Mukhunda Behari Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 41 years	750
19	"Education Gazette"	Chinsura	Do.	Pandit Kunud Deb Mukharjee, Brahmin, age 56 years.	1,500
20	"Faridpur Hitaishini"	Faridpur	Fortnightly	Raj Mohan Masumdar, Hindu, Baidya, age about 70 years	300
21	"Gaud Dut"	Malda	Weekly	Krishna Chandra Agarwalla	400
22	"Hindu Sanjika"	Rajshahi	Do.	Kasimuddin Sarkar, Muhammadan Printer age 40 year	200
23	"Hindusthan"	Calcutta	Do.	Hari Das Dutt, Hindu, Kayastha, age 43 years	900
24	"Hitavadi"	Do.	Do.	Manindra Nath Basu, Hindu, Kayastha, age 43 years	25,000
25	"Hitavarta"	Chittagong	Do.	Birendra Lal Das Gupta, Hindu, Baidya	600
26	"Islam Rabi"	Mymensingh	Do.	Maulvi Nasiruddin Ahmad, Musalman, age about 33 years	700
27	"Jagaran"	Bagerhat	Do.	Amarendra Nath Majumdar, Hindu, Kayastha	About 300
28	"Jasohar"	Jessore	Do.	Ananda Mohan Chaudhuri, Hindu, Kayastha	600
29	"Jyoti"	Chittagong	Do.	Kali Sankar Chakravati, Brahmin, age 46 year	1,000
30	"Kalyani"	Magura	Do.	Bisweswar Mukherji, Brahmin, age 48 year	500

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation
1	2	3	4	5	6
	BENGALI—contd.				
31	"Kasipore Nibasi" ...	Barisal ...	Weekly ...	Pratap Chandra Mukherji; Brahmin age 68 years ...	500
32	"Khulnavaasi" ...	Khulna ...	Do. ...	Gopal Chandra Mukherji; Hindu, Brahmin, age 55 years ...	50
33	"Malda Samachar" ...	Malda ...	Do. ...	Kali Prasanna Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 42 years ...	1,100
34	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia ...	Do. ...	Bagala Charan Ghosh; Hindu, Kayastha; age 41 years ...	About 500
35	"Midnapore Hitaishi" ...	Midnapore ...	Do. ...	Manmatha Nath Nag, Kayastha, age 38 years ...	500
36	"Medini Bandhab" ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Deb Das Karan; Hindu, Sadgop; age 40 years ...	900
37	"Moslem Hitaishi" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Shaik Abdur Rahim and Motummul Haque ...	6,300
38	"Muhammadi" ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Muhammad Akram Khan, Musalman, age 37 years, and Maulvi Akbar Khan.	About 1,400
39	"Murahidabad Hitaishi" ...	Saidabad ...	Do. ...	Banwari Lal Goswami Hindu, Brahmin; age 48 years ...	100
40	"Nayak" ...	Calcutta ...	Daily ...	Panchkari Banerjee and Birendra Chandra Ghosh ...	2,000
41	"Navavanga" ...	Chandpur ...	Weekly ...	Harendra Kisore Ray, Kayastha, age 25 years ...	400
42	"Noakhali Sammilani" ...	Noakhali ...	Do. ...	Rajendra Lal Ghosh, Kayastha, age 26 years ...	200
43	"Nihar" ...	Contai ...	Do. ...	Madhu Sudan Jana, Brahmo, age 44 years ...	500
44	"Pallivarta" ...	Bongong ...	Do. ...	Charu Chandra Ray, Hindu, Kayastha; age 4 years ...	500
45	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna ...	Do. ...	Sasi Bhushan Banerji, age 48 years ...	300
46	"Pabna Hitaishi" ...	Pabna ...	Do. ...	Basant Kumar Vidyavinode, Bhattacharyya, Brahmin, age 36 years.	650
47	"Praja Bandhu" ...	Tippera ...	Fortnightly ...	Rabi Parna Chandra Chakravart. Kaivarta Brahmin, age 36 years.	150
48	"Prasun" ...	Katwa ...	Weekly ...	Banku Behari Ghose, Goala, age 42 years ...	645
49	"Pratibha" ...	Behampur ...	Do. ...	Kamakshya Prasad Ganguly, Brahmin, age 66 years ...	500
50	"Purulia Darpan" ...	Purulia ...	Do. ...	Amulya Ratan Chatterji, Brahmin, age 41 years ...	About 700
51	"Ratnakar" ...	Asansol ...	Do.	300
52	"Rangpur Durpan" ...	Rangpur (Bhotmari) ...	Do. ...	Sarat Chandra Majumdar, Hindu Brahmin, age 46 years ...	400
53	"Rangpur Dikprakash" ...	Ditto ditto ...	Do. ...	Joytish Chandra Majumdar, Hindu, Brahmin, age about 35 years.	300
54	"Samay" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Jnanendra Nath Das, M.A., B.L., Brahmo, age 59 years ...	700
55	"Sanjaya" ...	Faridpur ...	Do. ...	Rama Nath Ghosh, Kayastha, age about 4 years ...	500
56	"Sanjivani" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Srinath Sastri, M.A.; Bamananda Chatterji, M.A., Editor, "Modern Review," etc.; K. K. Mitter.	6,000
57	"Sanskodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	Do. ...	Kashi Chandra Das Gupta, Brahmo, age 60 years ...	400
58	"Suhrid" ...	Perojpur ...	Fortnightly ...	Ram Chandra Pal, Kayastha ...	150
59	"Subarnabanik" ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly ...	Kiron Gopal Sengha, Subarnabanik, age 29 years ...	1,000
60	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-Ananda-Bazar Patrika" ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Rasik Mohan Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 41 years, and; Mrinal Kanti Ghosh.	17,000
61	"Siksha Samachar" ...	Dacca ...	Do. ...	Abinas Chandra Gupta M.A., B.L., Baidya, age 36 years ...	1,500
62	"Suraj" ...	Pabna ...	Do. ...	Kisori Mohan Roy, Hindu, Kayastha, age 38 years ...	50
63	"Triguna Ganga" ...	Comilla ...	Do. ...	Rajan Kant Gupta, Hindu, Baidya age 48 years ...	400

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	BENGALI—consolid.				
64	"Tripura Hitajahi"	Tippura	Weekly	Kamasiya Kumar Singha, Brahmo, age 25 years	450
65	"Vartabaha"	anaghat	Do.	Girija Nath Mukherji, Hindu, Brahmin, age 45 years	600
66	"Viswavarta"	Dacca	Do.	Abinash Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Hindu, Baidya, age 36 year	12,000
	HINDI—				
67	"Barabazar Gazette"	Calcutta	Do.	Sadananda Sukul	800
68	"Bharat Mitra"	Do.	Do.	Ambika Prasad Bajpai, Hindu, Brahmin, age 40 years	2,400
69	"Birbharat"	Do.	Do.	Pandit Ramanand Dubay, Hindu, Brahmin, age 30 years	500
70	"Dainik Bharat Mitra"	Do.	Daily	Ambika Prasad Bajpai, Hindu, Brahmin, age 40 years	300
71	"Hindi Bangavasi"	Do.	Weekly	Hari Kisson Joahar, Hindu, Kshatriya, age 37 years	5,500
72	"Marwari"	Do.	Do.	B. K. Tebrivala, Hindu, Vaisya, age 42 years	500
	URDU—				
73	"Durbar Gazette"	Do.	Daily	Nawab Ali	1,000
74	"Al Hilal"	Do.	Weekly	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, a muhammadan age 27 years	1,000
75	"Hablul Matin"	Do.	Dail	Saiyed Jelal-ud-din Shiah, age 61 year
	PERSIAN—				
76	"Hablul Matin"	Do.	Weekly	Saiyed Jelal-ud-din Shiah, age 61 ears

*Additions to, and alterations in, the list of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 1st
January 1913.*

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1	"Dainik Banik"	Calcutta	Daily
2	"Darsak"	Do.	Weekly
3	"Paricharak"	Do.	Bi-weekly
4	"Sammilani"	Do.	Weekly
5	"Sudharak"	Do.	Do.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May writes that colonists who refuse to permit Indians to trade in their countries ought themselves to be forbidden entrance into India. This might bring them to their senses. But the authorities are not likely to adopt such a drastic measure against the colonists for the sake of the happiness of the Indians.

HITAVADI,
May 23rd 1913.

2. Referring to the peace negotiations in connection with the Balkan war, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May writes:—

BANGAVASI
May 24th, 1913.

Turkey has been worsted in the war, and many European Powers, anxious to set her on her legs again, are ready to help her with good counsel. England, ruling as she does over a large number of Mussalman subjects in India, wishes her well and finds it to her interest to help Turkey. And for this reason she has recently entered into a treaty with Turkey, mainly with regard to the Baghdad Railway and the Persian Gulf.

3. The *Habul Matin* (Urdu) [Calcutta] is of opinion that Essad Pasha will make a good and capable ruler.

HABUL MATIN,
May 22nd, 1913.

4. The *Habul Matin* (Urdu) [Calcutta] of the 22nd May has got a long article on the proposed Medina University, in the course of which it remarks that Turkey is anxious to establish this University at Medina to get the good-will of the Arabians in view of the changed political situation.

HABUL MATIN,
May 22nd, 1913.

It comments on the interest which is being shown by some prominent Indian Mussalmans in this University, and says that it will prove of no use to Moslems in India who have not been able to profit by the Universities at their gate.

HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a) Police.

5. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May says that on the occasion of the *Madar* festival the demons of drunkenness and debauchery are let loose among the Mussalmans of Calcutta. The authorities are, therefore, requested not to issue licenses for the celebration of this festival.

MOHAMMADI,
May 23rd, 1913.

6. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May asks the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, to introduce into this city a rule like that framed for Burma which makes it obligatory on motor-drivers, when they run anybody over, to render some sort of assistance to the wounded person.

HITAVADI,
May 23rd, 1913.

7. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May speaks of the panic created amongst the people of Bengal, generally, by the renewed activity of the police in the matter of house-searches and arrests in Eastern Bengal. Many people thought (as is now seen, wrongly) that house-searches and arrests would grow fewer. The police mean well, but they are harassing the innocent along with the guilty. So long as these things go on, peace will not actually be established in the land.

HITAVADI,
May 23rd 1913.

8. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May writes that at Dacca the Gurkha soldiers are parading the streets with martial music and in full military array. Why all this show? Is it to create terror or respect?

SANJIVANI,
May 22nd, 1913.

9. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 24th May draws the attention of the Hon'ble Mr. Montagu to the case of police *sulum* at Khulna in which a Head Constable and two constables belonging to the Gazirhat punitive police force have been convicted of having beaten and otherwise maltreated a woman of the town, and says:—When we get, every week, reports of cases of *sulum* committed by police-

BASUMATI,
May 24th, 1913.

servants, how can we believe that the police has become, or is becoming, less oppressive than before? In this matter, police constables are less guilty than high police-officers, for the former generally commit oppression at the bidding of the latter. Why do police constables regularly realize bribes from betel-sellers and hackney-carriage drivers? It is useless for Mr. Montagu to shut his eyes to facts and say that police oppression is decreasing. He should on the contrary take steps to prevent recurrence of cases of police *zulum*.

BASUMATI,
May 24th, 1912.

10. Referring to the case in which the Allahabad High Court has acquitted one Kampta and others of the charge of having given false evidence against Jaffar Beg, Sub-Inspector of the Momrez thana, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 24th May says that it now behoves the Government to enquire into the complaint of *zulum* which the defendants in the above case had brought against the Sub-Inspector, and let the public know the truth in the matter.

SURAJ,
May 19th, 1912.

11. The *Suraj* [Pabna] of the 19th May writes that though the Sub-divisional officer and the Deputy Superintendent of Police lately inquired personally into the situation at Ullapara, cases of oppression still continue to take place. That is because the wrong-doers are not being punished. One Nasuruddin Akand, and his son of Srikola village, were assaulted because they took over lands from a Hindu on the *borga* tenure. The police are inactive, they cannot put down acts of lawlessness even when occurring close to the thana. Amir Mulla, another poor Moslem, has been robbed of his agricultural implements and his daughter publicly insulted, because he too agreed to cultivate lands for Hindus. More activity on the part of the police is needed to save these poor Moslem ryots.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,
May 19th, 1912.

12. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 19th May writes that in the opinion of some people the police inquiry into the Baraikaram dacoity is not being conducted with proper care. Let a specially able officer be deputed to go into this case so that there may be no repetition of the Morakati affair.

CHARU MIHIR,
May 20th, 1912.

13. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 20th May complains of the failure of the authorities to afford adequate protection against *budmashes* to pilgrims visiting the shrine named Baratirtha at Jnanshahi in the Jamalpur Subdivision. The *budmashes* oppress the pilgrims in various ways, and such is the fear which people have for them that no one dares to give evidence against them; and they even threaten to murder everybody who may do so.

JASOHAR,
May 17th, 1912.

14. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 17th May complains of the systematic occurrence of incendiarism in the months of *Chaitra* and *Baisakh* every year in the Gopalpur village under the Kaligunj thana within the Jhenida Subdivision of the Jessore District. In the month of *Baisakh* last, the houses of Priyanath Mukherjee and two poor widows were burnt down. The *budmashes* who commit the offence are known to the villagers, but are not spoken against because of the terror inspired by them.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
May 23rd, 1912.

15. Referring to the charges of oppression made by a number of Mussalmans against certain *amla* of the Maharajganj *cutchery* of Rani Minakumari of Dinajpur, the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May writes:—

The senior Deputy Magistrate who has been deputed to enquire into the complaints, has done nothing of the kind, but is only trying the case brought against the *amla* by one Baharulla. We are afraid it will not be easy for the poor Mussalman raiyats to collect evidence against the officers of a powerful zamindar. We, would, therefore suggest that a competent official should be asked to enquire into the charges, and try to get hold of the facts in connection with them, or else there is very little chance of the poor Mussalmans obtaining justice in the matter.

(b) Working of the Courts.

16. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May learns that the Behar High Court will be without any original civil jurisdiction. Such a High Court, remarks the paper, must necessarily be devoid of the dignity attaching to tribunals of that order.

SANJIVANI,
May 22nd, 1912.

17. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May reproduces from the *Amrita Basar Patrika* of the 19th May, the report of the case brought against the Jamadar and some coolies of the Singalcharra Tea garden (in Karimganj, Sylhet) by two Ghasipuris, and notices the letters which the Manager of the Garden is alleged to have written to the Subdivisional Officer in connection with the case. The *Bangavasi* invites the attention of the Chief Commissioner of Assam to the matter, and asks for an impartial inquiry.

BANGAVASI,
May 24th, 1912.

18. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May refers to an incident which lately occurred at Saraghat:—a woman named Ramkali, travelling under the escort of her husband's durwan, was won over by a coolie *arkati*, and the durwan resisting they were all three hauled up before the courts. The durwan wanted the Magistrate to detain the woman pending the arrival of her husband. The Magistrate stated that he could not do so under the law. But is that so? Had he wished, could not he have kept the woman and the *arkati* in police custody for a day or two? What does the law exist for but to prevent wrong-doing? Let Government look into this case.

SANJIVANI,
May 22nd, 1912.

19. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May refers to a case in which two women, named Mokshada and Kshiroda of Natuldanga village near Bankura, were lately abducted by *arkatis*, forcibly detained in a coolie depot thrashed and compelled to travel for some distance on a camel's back instead of by rail for preventing any outcry. It appears that the Deputy Magistrate of Bankura who tried the accused (agents of Mr. Mackertich) allowed the case to be compromised. This is calculated to encourage wrong-doers. This case should never have been allowed to be compromised. Let Government look into this incident.

SANJIVANI,
May 22nd, 1912.

20. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 19th May writes that in connection with the Morakati dacoity case, the complainant Madhu being a poor man could not bring up all his witnesses and the trying Deputy Magistrate decided to proceed with the case with such evidence as the police could furnish. Now, it is to be hoped that a fresh enquiry will be made, and until such enquiry is made and adequate evidence is forthcoming, the accused should not be let off.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,
May 19th, 1912.

(c)—Jails.

21. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May thinks that Government has been very wise in making the concession which it has made to Ullaskar Dutt, but observes that this act of grace should have come earlier. But, in its opinion, the best thing of all would be to release him altogether. That would enhance the glory of the British Government.

SAMAY,
May 23rd, 1912.

(d)—Education.

22. We, writes the *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May, receive frequent complaints from teachers and proprietors of schools in the mufassal, to the effect that text-books prescribed by the authorities are often out of print and cannot be had in the market, while if, on inspection, any inspecting officer sees that the students of a school have not got all the books prescribed for them, he unhesitatingly stops the Government aid to the school, wholly or partly. Such a case has recently occurred in connection with the Lakshmikol Madrasah in the Dacca District. Why are not the names of books not available in the market removed from the list of prescribed text-books?

MOHAMMADI,
May 23rd, 1912.

MOSLEM HITAISHI,
May 23rd, 1913.

23. A correspondent of the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May takes Babu Sarada Prosanna Das, Principal of the Hooghly College, to task for having framed certain rules for the guidance of the five hostels that are under his charge, the most stringent and unjust of these rules being, as stated below, made applicable to the Madrasah hostel alone. (1) The Principal has prohibited the holding of any meeting by the Madrasah students, who have thus been obliged to stop the weekly meetings of their club at which they used to discuss matters relating to their religion and morals. It is a noteworthy fact that this prohibition of meetings is not applicable to the four other hostels, a fact which shows the Principal's anti-Mussalman spirit. (2) The Principal has ordered that no guardian of any boarder of the Madrasah hostel is to be admitted into the hostel building without the Superintendent's permission. And as the headmaster of the school is the Superintendent of the hostel, anyone wishing to see a boarder has to wait outside in the sun, or under a shower, for about 15 minutes, before he can obtain permission from the Superintendent to enter the hostel premises. (3) No student is to go upon the platform attached to the hostel after 9 P.M., excepting to answer a call of nature, nor is any student to perform the *Namas* after that hour. And as the students generally have their dinner at 7 P.M., and start reading at 8 P.M., they have to make an inconvenient break in their studies so that they may perform the *Namas* before 9 P.M. (4) The exaction of a fee of eight annas per annum from each boarder of the hostel for the purchase of crockery, etc., is too hard upon Mussalman students who are all very poor. Besides, as the reserve fund of the hostel now amounts to Rs. 500 or Rs. 600, it is simply unreasonable to impose this burden on Muhammadan boys, a thing which has never been done by any Principal before. (5) The Principal has unjustly raised the amount of deposit each boarder has to make from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3. (6) Students are not to find fault with the hostel servants, and complaints made by students against them are invariably dismissed by the Superintendent. The result is that the boarders are often insulted by the servants. If any student dares to approach the Principal in the matter he is punished with expulsion from the hostel. (7) There are a number of respectable visitors of the hostel, but the Principal has made it a rule that no visitor is to make any remark in the visitors' book nor to have anything to do with the mode of living of the boarders. (8) The Principal has ordered that the two representatives of the boarders who previously used to help the Superintendent in his work and to lay before the Principal any grievances the boarders might have, are henceforth only to help the Superintendent in doing the marketing for the hostel. Besides, if these representatives be not to the Superintendent's liking he will select two students himself. This means that the representatives of the boarders are to be mere dummies. (9) No boarder is now to get his deposit back without giving 15 days' notice. (10) The Superintendent has been vested with autocratic power and no complaint against him is to be entertained.

MOSLEM HITAISHI,
May 23rd, 1913.

24. In an article on the spread of primary education among Mussal-
mans, the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd
May writes:—
Primary education among Mussalmans.

The introduction of the vernacular basis of education in 1901 did immense good to the cause of Mussalman education, which received a further impetus by the uniting together by Lord Curzon of places in Eastern Bengal and Assam where Mussalman interests preponderated. These circumstances, as well as the appointment of Mussalman inspecting officers, inspired Muhammadan education with a new life. It is a great pity, however, that this state of things was not allowed to continue, and a sharp division was made between English schools and Bengali schools in 1910. Living as they mostly do in rural areas, Mussalmans have now only Bengali schools within reach, there being very few, if at all, English schools in Mussalman villages. If now a Mussalman boy wishes to receive English education, he cannot expect to matriculate before he is at least 22 years of age. For at the time when he gets admitted into a Bengali school, where he has to receive his first education he is generally about 7 years old. He has to be in such a school for 7 years, and so when he comes to an English school he is about fourteen years of age.

He is to spend 6 years in this school, during which period he has to read with boys almost half as old as he is. And lastly, he has to read for three years before he is allowed to matriculate. Thus, when he matriculates he is about 23 years old, and after that he does not find it easy to prosecute his studies any further. The new system, therefore, acts as a great check on Mussalman education. And as Mussalmans have neither the means nor the power to have English schools of their own, it behoves the Government to come to their help by reverting to the system which was introduced in 1901.

25. The *Bharat Chitra* [Calcutta] of the 18th May complains of the destruction or distribution of books in the Bengal Library in respect of which copyright has been granted, and remarks that this may put many an author to serious inconvenience in the future, if he finds it necessary to bring out a second edition of his book, and so applies to Government for a loan of the copy of the first edition.

BHARAT CHITRA,
May 18th, 1913.

26. In an anonymous letter published in the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May, the writer takes another correspondent to task for having in a letter, which appeared in a recent issue of that paper, insinuated that the success of the candidate named Panchanan in the last Nyaya examination was due to nothing but favouritism. The writer indignantly dismisses the idea of any favour shown to Panchanan because of his being a pupil of Pandit Tarakabhushan, and considers it as simply impossible that he could in any way have learnt beforehand the questions that he would be required to answer. The other correspondent, says the writer, loses no opportunity of showing his jealousy of Pandit Tarakabhushan. He ascribes Pandit Rajendra Nath Vidyabhushan's standing first in the Smriti examination to his being a student of Pandit Tarakabhushan, although in fact Rajendra Nath appeared in that examination not as Pandit Tarakabhushan's pupil but as that of Pandit Haris Chandra Tarkaratna. It is well known to everybody that Pandit Tarakabhushan resigned the Examinership of Smriti that year because of his being related to Pandit Rajendra Nath and the paper was set by Guru Charan Tarkaratna. Mahamahopadhyaya Sivchandra Sarvabhauma, in whose behalf the other correspondent has taken up the cudgels, has never been remarkable for any kindly feelings towards Panchanan, and some time ago he said, in a letter to Mahamahopadhyaya Rakhaldas Nyayaratna, that he would never let Panchanan obtain any advancement so long as he (Sarvabhauma) was alive. The writer also accuses Pandit Sarvabhauma of being in the habit of using unfair means in getting his own students passed and of getting his old pupils appointed as Examiners, so that they may help him in his underhand ways.

NAYAK,
May 23rd, 1913.

The Editor of the *Nayak* draws the attention of the Hon'ble Sir Asutosh Saraswati to the allegations made above and says that he (the Editor) knows of the letter which the Pandit wrote to Pandit Rakhaldas Nyayaratna, as well as, of a request which he (Pandit Sivchandra) made to a certain examiner for giving high marks to a pupil of his. The Editor asks Sir Asutosh Mukerjee to have an early enquiry made into these allegations and remove Pandit Sivchandra Sarvabhauma from the Examination Board if they are found to be true.

SURAJ,
May 19th, 1913.

27. The *Suraj* [Pabna] of the 19th May ridicules the agitation set on foot by certain Anglo-Indian papers against Mr. Hornell's appointment. These journals evidently think that Government is utterly subservient to their whims. The idea that every European must necessarily be fit for any and every office is now evidently exploded. Mr. James himself superseded some of his seniors in the past (like Mr. P. Mukherjee and Dr. J. C. Bose) and he cannot complain if he himself is now superseded by a junior. The principle is the same in both cases.

MUSLIM HITAISHI,
May 23rd, 1913.

28. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May expresses great satisfaction at Mr. Hornell's appointment as Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, and is fully confident that the schemes for the advancement of Mussalman education, which he had in view when he was Assistant Director of Public Instruction a few years ago and which have hardly been given full effect to by Mr. Kitchler, will now be carried out. Besides, says the paper, Mr. Hornell has an intimate

Mr. Hornell.

knowledge of the working of Lower Primary Schools and Muklabs, and is an officer who will never allow himself to be a puppet in the hands of his subordinates. Mr. Hornell's appointment is sure to prove a success and the paper congratulates the Government upon its happy choice.

SANJIVANI,
May 22nd, 1912.

29. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May hears that Rai Saheb Haradhan Bose's successor as Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, will be a European, who will supersede the claims of more worthy Indians. Let justice be done and a Bengali appointed to an office which has always been filled by Bengalis.

BASUMATI,
May 24th, 1912.

30. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 24th May has heard that arrangements are being made to give the Personal Assistantship to the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, to a European. This post has always

Ibid.

been held by Bengalis, and with conspicuous ability. The appointment of a European to the post will cause great inconvenience to the class of *Pandits* and others who do not know English and have to go to the Director's office frequently on business. The attention of the Government is drawn to the matter. In this connection the writer further notes that the Registrarship of the Calcutta University, which was formerly held with great ability by Bengalis, is now held by Europeans only. The justice of reserving certain high posts strictly for Europeans and giving Europeans a preferential claim to a number of other high posts is questioned.

SANJIVANI,
May 22nd, 1912.

31. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May points out how Mr. Stapleton, Inspector of Schools at Dacca, lately insisted on Babu Tarak Chandra De, a teacher of 22 years' standing at the Narainganj High School, to resign office and how subsequently Tarak Babu was reinstated through the interference of the Vice-Chancellor of the University, how Mr. Stapleton took Jogendra Babu, the Head Master of the school, to task for this re-appointment of Tarak Babu, and how finally Jogendra Babu himself resigned office. The paper remarks that Mr. Stapleton, by his arbitrary and whimsical conduct, has made himself thoroughly unpopular and it is time he was transferred elsewhere.

DAINIK BHARAT MITRA,
May 23rd, 1912.

32. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May observes that the present personnel of the Patna University Committee has not inspired confidence in the public mind.

(c)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

DAINIK BHARAT MITRA,
May 22nd, 1912.

33. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May is of opinion that heavy fines and imprisonment alone will have the effect of stamping out the evil of adulteration of food-stuffs and commends the suggestion to the notice of Government.

BASUMATI,
May 24th, 1912.

34. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 24th May recommends to the Government an investigation into the system of treating cases of snake-bite prevalent among the snake-charmers of Bengal. The late Babu Siris Kumar Ghosh's book on the subject is very instructive.

BHARAT CHITRA,
May 18th, 1912.

35. The *Bharat Chitra* [Calcutta] of the 18th May complains of the practice of allowing both males and females to bathe together in the two bathing ghats in Kalighat, and draws the attention of the Government to the matter, in the interests of the large number of *pardasnashin* Hindu ladies resorting to that place of pilgrimage.

DIPRAKASH,
May 16th, 1912.

36. The *Diprakash* [Rangpur] of the 18th May writes in English:—
It appears to us that, if village sanitation is to be improved, a separate Department must be

created for every Commissionership, if not for every district, with sufficient means, experience, powers, and skill. These departments which may tentatively be described as "Village Sanitation Bureau" must be composed of both officials and non-officials. We merely indicate here the broad lines which the scheme should take, leaving the details to be worked out by Commissioners of Divisions in consultation with the Local Government. The main point to keep in mind should be to provide a sufficiency of funds to carry out the most urgent need of the people in the matter of adequate supply of wholesome drinking water, the scarcity of which is now so sorely felt in every village. It has been admitted, time and again, by every medical officer and District Magistrate.

37. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 14th May objects to the appointment of the Magistrate of Comilla as Chairman of the Comilla Municipality, not because the work of the municipality will suffer under his control and guidance, but because an official should not on principle be at the head of a municipal board.

TRIPURA HITAIISHI,
May 14th, 1913.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

38. The *Faridpur Hitaishi* [Faridpur] of the 20th May writes that in the settlement operations now in progress in Faridpur, a revolutionary innovation is being quietly made in that the King-Emperor is being stated in the records as the landowner, and zemindars and talukdars are being recorded as under-tenure-holders. Yet in 1793 Lord Cornwallis admitted the zemindars to be the proprietors of their lands. This is knocking the permanent settlement on the head indeed.

FARIDPUR
HITAIISHI,
May 20th, 1913.

39. The *Hindu Kanjika* [Rajshahi] of the 19th May draws the attention of the Government to the hardship and inconvenience which the carrying on of settlement operations in Nattore during the present season, is causing to the local people who have to attend on the survey Amins in the scorching sun, on pain of being fined Rs. 50 a day. The paper suggests that the work should be carried on during the cold weather.

HINDU KANJIKA,
May 19th, 1913.

40. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapur] of the 19th May narrates how the Court of Wards, while managing the Kultikri estates, sold, for a paltry consideration, one of the most valuable parts of the zemindari (Noagram) to the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, against the protests of the proprietress of the estate. This sale was not effected after formal public notice, though higher offers than the Murshidabad one, were forthcoming. The fact is the employes of the Court of Wards at that time were in conspiracy with the Murshidabad estate. Recently, on recovering possession of the estate from the Court of Wards, the proprietress applied to the Sub-Judge of Midnapore in order to set aside the sale above mentioned. The Court has held the suit time-barred. This does not decide the question of the serious conspiracy which has robbed the proprietress of valuable property, which it is the duty of Government to enquire into. Until that is done, can justice be said to have been vindicated in this case?

MEDINI BANDHAV,
May 19th, 1913.

(g)—Railways and Communications including Canals and Irrigation.

41. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 24th May learns, from the *Barisal Hitaishi* newspaper, that Government has sanctioned a large sum of money for re-excavating ten miles of the Kankenna river below Rajapur, and says that as the river did not surely silt up within a year or two, a timely inspection and an early dredging would have saved the Government a lot of money. Why are not rivers regularly inspected and their beds dredged, as soon as silting begins appreciably.

BASUMATI,
May 24th, 1913.

MIDNAPUR HITSAIKI,
May 19th, 1913.

42. In a letter published in the *Midnapur Hitaik* [Midnapore] of the 19th May it is complained that inconvenience is being suffered by the inhabitants of nearly 250 villages within the jurisdiction of the Pashkura and Tamluk Thanas, owing to the silting up of the canals named Jaygopal and Geonkhali. These canals used to drain out the water of these villages which now lie under water for a long time, to the serious menace of the local health.

SANJAY,
April 25th, 1913.

43. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 25th April complains of the insufficiency of Intermediate class accommodation in the trains on the Faridpur-Rajbari branch of Eastern Bengal State Railway, and of the dilapidated condition of Intermediate class carriages on this line.

DAINIK BHARAT
MITRA,
May 23rd, 1913.

44. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May draws the attention of the authorities to the overcrowding of third class carriages on the East Indian Railway.

Ibid.

(h)—General.

SANJIVANI,
May 22nd, 1913.

45. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May writes that since 1885 about 104 Indians have entered the Indian Medical Service, but most of them retired after putting in 17 or 20 years' service. The reason for these premature retirements is that they were superseded by their European juniors.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
May 23rd, 1913.

Indians and the public service.

46. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May writes:—

Most European witnesses before the Islington Commission objected to the appointment of Indians to higher offices in any larger measure than now, as being dangerous to British supremacy and so forth. But the Parliamentary Statute of 1858 and the Proclamation of 1858 lay down fitness as the criterion of admissibility to higher office and not race. Of course, these two "Charters" of Indians' rights have not been quite acted up to, but Government admits that it is its duty to adhere to them. So, according as the fitness of Indians is increasing they are being admitted in larger numbers to high offices.

HITAVADI,
May 23rd, 1913.

47. Discussing the question of the prevailing high prices in India, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May appeals to Government to raise the salaries of its humble employees. It is not going to abandon free trade and thus bring about a fall in prices. So it ought to do something to save the middle class from dire poverty. Government servants have repeatedly prayed for a rise in salaries, and Government has repeatedly promised to do something, but up to now no practical steps to that end have been taken. This is creating discontent. And if Government raises the salaries of its servants mercantile offices, too, will raise the salaries of their clerks, since Government is presumed to set the standard in these matters which everybody follows sooner or later.

SURAJ,
May 19th, 1913.

48. The *Suraj* [Pabna] of the 19th May, writes that, conceal it as Government may, it is clear that it has no longer the zeal for the separation of the Judicial and Executive functions it showed some years ago. And yet it is a reform which is bound to come sooner or later.

BASUMATI,
May 24th, 1913.

49. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 24th May says that Government will do a great service to Bengal and the Bengalis if it can revive the date-sugar industry in the country. It is hoped that the authorities will take active steps in the matter and protect the industry against imported bounty-fed sugar.

HITAVADI,
May 23rd, 1913.

50. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May, discussing the system of indentured coolie labour in Assam and elsewhere, writes that in England labour is an omnipotent power, and, though well remunerated and otherwise comfortable, labourers often combine to get higher wages and shorter hours of work. Contrast with this

the lot of the Indian coolies who cannot make even a decent subsistence with strenuous work. The system of indentured labour which converts what should be a civil contract into an obligation enforceable by the criminal law, is a disgrace to a civilized Government like the British. It is most unjust and in view of the tales of Indian cooly oppression which are coming from abroad we must make a strong agitation to get this system abolished.

51. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May, has received a complaint from one of its subscribers named Keramatuli

A serious Postal complaint.

Sarker, village Danarhat Sodpur, Post-office Basantanagar, District Dinajpur, to the effect that the Post-Master of Basantanagar evidently misappropriates a copy of the *Mohammadi* Newspaper every week, from the number of copies which are distributed through this Post-office. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the complaint.

MOHAMMADE,
May 23rd, 1913.

52. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 24th May, observes that with the coming of Lord Hardinge and the King-Emperor everything had become quiet. A co-operation had been established between the rulers and

The conspiracy in Bengal.

the ruled. But it seems that things are again going to revert to the former state when conspiracy cases, waging war against the King etc., were the order of the day. The public mind is very much perturbed at the institution of cases at Barisal, and at the stationing of Gurkhas there, and refusal of bail to the accused. It hopes that Lord Carmichael will give the matter his most careful consideration and bring about a speedy closing of the trial.

DAINIK BHARAT
MITRA,
May 24th 1913.

53. The *Najak* [Calcutta] of the 26th May refers to the outcry made by the Bengalee and the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* against the recent activity of the police in Eastern Bengal and remarks :—

The Barisal Conspiracy case
and the police.

NAYAK,
May 26th, 1913.

The following points may be urged in defence of official attitude in this matter :—

(1) Our rulers cannot allow unrest and crimes like thefts and dacoities to continue in the country permanently, without doing anything whatever to check this state of things.

(2) It is undeniable that unrest and anarchy have manifested themselves in this country. Bombs of similar make have been hurled at Delhi (on Lord Hardinge), at Maulvi Bazar and at Lahore. Our rulers cannot be blind to such general manifestations of hatred. And it is bound to cause Government some measure of anxiety.

(3) Government spends money freely in keeping up its staff of policemen and detectives. And yet not a single offender of this class is being caught. Government is utterly in the dark as to what is happening. If Government is thus defeated by these anarchists, it is bound to do what any man in power will do. What would you or I do in like circumstances? What we would do as individuals, Government is doing collectively.

(4) The rich and prominent men in the country loudly profess their loyalty, but do not do anything practical. Either the people know nothing or for fear of their lives cannot disclose what they know or they choose not to tell. Or perhaps respectable people care not to go into all this trouble, and be harassed by the police. But Government does not know all this and imagines that the public are indifferent. That is why Government, powerful as it is, is going to take strong steps. It cannot be blamed therefor. So much for the official standpoint. We shall now make a few plain remarks of our own.

(a) Why has not the perpetrator of the Delhi outrage yet been traced? Does not this mean that there is a serious flaw in the machinery of the Executive which has not yet been detected.

(b) After the Delhi outrage, similar bomb outrages were perpetrated at Maulvi Bazar and at Lahore. This shows that the Detective Department is wanting in able men.

(3) We adhere to the principle we laid down sometime ago, viz., what Indians do, Indians know. You cannot save those who give you some correct information, though mingled with a mass of falsehoods. Could you do anything to save your detectives and spies who were murdered in numbers? Just as the

public are in terror of their lives, so many of your police officers, Whites and Black, are in equal terror of theirs. Many of the latter try to shirk work, and to make up for this remissness by flattering their superiors. Many of the ruling race now like sycophancy and promote flatterers. The result of this promotion of incompetent men is that the Executive fail to do their real work. It is not for flatterers and policemen who are in terror of their lives to catch hold of men of action like the anarchists. That is why only some of the minor offenders are being caught, leaving the real anarchists utterly unharmed.

The point is that anarchism and dacoities will not be stamped out if the course Government now adopts is persisted in. At bottom, these crimes are the result of the present-day keen economic struggle for existence, of political aspiration and of susceptibilities wounded by European arrogance. What is wanted is a radical change of the present policy of Government in ruling the country.

HANJIVANI,
May 22nd, 1918.

54. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May writes:—

The impending proceedings under section 121A, Indian Penal Code, at Barisal.

Let those who commit dacoities or keep unlicensed arms be proceeded against criminally on those charges; but let not the whole country be thrown into excitement by a case being instituted, under section 121A, Indian Penal Code, for conspiracy to wage war against the King.

The police declare that *bhadralog* are committing dacoities, and on this plea they try to evade their obligations. Hence the real dacoits are not being caught. But though the dacoits may not be caught, there is no doubt that dacoities are being frequently committed. Property stolen in the Langalband dacoity case was found in the house of the Additional District Magistrate of Dacca. His son went to jail for this, and a number of other youths suspected of being dacoits were kept under arrest for a long time and at last let off, because the police could not adduce evidence against them. Some of those thus let off were at once re-arrested in court, on charges of sedition and the like.

This conduct is inexplicable. Now, did the police arrest them on mere suspicion, or after having procured evidence that they were dacoits? As they could not adduce any such evidence in court the presumption is that they effected the arrests on some false information received. Why then were these men arrested as dacoits without evidence? Why were many houses also searched and thereby discontent generated in many minds?

The police are now bringing this charge under section 121A of the Indian Penal Code, because they cannot procure evidence of dacoities. This talk of attempting to wage war against the King is really ridiculous. Supposing that a handful of youths collected half a dozen pistols and daggers, would that justify the institution of proceedings against them under section 121A? The British Empire is not an earthen pot which will be smashed up at the first missile thrown at it. Can the 28 youths arrested on this charge at Barisal break up this mighty Empire? It is incredible. Even if the five crores of Bengal's population all whole-heartedly try, they cannot displace a single brick of the structure of the British Empire. Lord Carmichael, at any rate, ought to understand this. Why then these proceedings under section 121A against these 28 helpless youths? The institution of proceedings under this section is bound to discredit Government. All over the world people will hear of this case, and imagine that Indians do not like the British Government and are trying to expel it. Is it well that such a wrong idea should go abroad? There is absolutely no sign whatever of a state of warfare in Bengal; indeed there is even no antagonism between *swadeshi* and *bideshi* (foreign). Why then these proceedings? Who is it that is trying to bring back the days of arrest, that preceded Lord Carmichael's advent? Has His Excellency fallen into the hands of those men who like arrest, and been led to assent to this case being instituted? Let him yet reconsider his decision. Let him reflect whether it is right to spend lakhs of public money and inflame public feeling by instituting proceedings under section 121A, when charges of dacoities or of violations of provisions of the Arms Act may serve the purpose.

55. The *Sanyani* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May hears that Government contemplates instituting a big case in Calcutta under section 121A of the Indian Penal Code analogous to that at Barisal, and asks Government to desist. For cases like these create popular discontent and unrest, and so do harm.

SANYANI,
May 22nd, 1913.

56. The *Al-hilal* [Calcutta] of the 21st May has got a long article regarding the security which has been demanded by the United Provinces Government from the *Urdu-e-Mollah* Press, Aligarh. "It is known to every person," says the paper, "that the real cause

AL-HILAL,
May 21st, 1913.

Demand of security under the Indian Press Act by the United Provinces Government.

of the present national life and patriotic strength lies in Lord Curzon's rule of 5 years, and latterly in his successor's early policy of rigorous administration, which commenced to operate through scaffolds, prison cells, and law courts. Had it not been so, then in all probability the Bengali agitation which shook the Viceregal throne, and the country's ten-year old *swadeshi* life would have been postponed for at least a quarter of a century. But Lord Morley's and Lord Minto's policy of constitutional reform, which is the best memento of their wisdom, was so timely started that it is worthy of praise, and in consequence of it the national movement has been set back for a long time to come. Is then Sir James Meston's singular Government desirous of acquiring new experience in Islamic agitation in place of the old *swadeshi* outcry? . . . The answer to this must not be sought in the events themselves but in the consequences arising out of them."

His Honour in his Gorakhpur speech pronounced that he would stop the boycott movement by administrative measures.

It observes that, in this instance, His Honour has proved himself as good as his word; and after drawing attention to the unexceptionable character of Fazal Hussain Hasrat Mohani, Editor of the *Urdu-e-Mollah*, his great poverty, his self-sacrifice, his unconquerable devotedness to the cause of Islam, and his great influence with the Moslems, it remarks that this action is not against Hasrat Mohani only, but means the trampling down of all Moslem aspirations, and the sacrificing of new Islamic movements. "Although it is possible for Sir James Meston to suppress Hasrat Mohani's Press, but praise be unto God, neither he (Sir James Meston) nor any one else of his ilk can ever have the power to stop, by futile endeavours, the pulsating heartbeats of seven million Muhammadans, whom not their crucified God, but the wrathful, puissant, eternal everlasting God, is moving. Sir James Meston does not want to move from his place, but he ought to remember that by God's help we have already moved and he cannot make us retrace our steps."

Further, it continues to observe that those happy days have for ever passed away when it was possible for Government to easily incarcerate men of the type of independence, patriotism and earnestness of character like that of Hasrat Mohani. The Mussalmans of to-day are not like the Mussalmans of ten years ago, who were open to sinister official influence. The Government of the United Provinces ought to know that this demand of Rs. 3,000 is not a very effectual instrument for annihilating the agitation of a true servant of the country and religion, and the paper suggests that it is within the powers of Mussalmans to collect this amount and place it in the hands of Sir James Meston as a testimony of the change which has come over the Mussalman world. Whatever is being demanded from Hasrat Mohani, and whatever steps are being taken against him, are taken by Moslems as not directed against him but as against them and their aspirations.

57. The *Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 25th May protests against the proposal to give a single company of shipowners the monopoly of carrying Hedjaz pilgrims to and from Jeddah, on the grounds that the grant of such a privilege will embolden the privileged company to deal with passengers despotically and that the necessity of returning by the same company's ship will cause great hardship to passengers. Government, says the writer, will be perfectly justified in compelling all pilgrims to buy return tickets. But they should not be compelled to return by the ships of the same company as carried them in their outward journey. Arrangements should be made for their return by ships belonging to any company.

Ships for carrying Hedjaz pilgrims.

HABIBUL MATIN,
May 25th, 1913.

HITAVADI,
May 28th, 1913.

58. Referring to the fact that the roof of some of the Indian clerks' quarters at Delhi were blown off by a recent storm, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th May writes that Government should inquire if these houses were built with inferior materials, since they were to be used only by Indians.

MOSLEM HITAISHI,
May 28th, 1913.

59. A correspondent to the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 28th May says that none of the two representations made to the Government regarding the mismanagement of the Kumedpur Waqf estate has borne any fruit, perhaps because the enquiry into the allegation, on both the occasions, was entrusted to a Deputy Magistrate who is the son of the pleader in charge of the Waqf estate. The writer is of opinion that unless the Government takes prompt steps to save the estate, it is sure to be ruined.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

HINDI BANGAVANI,
May 26th, 1913.

60. The *Hindi Bangavani* [Calcutta] of the 26th May does not believe that any good will result from the imparting of "Agriculture and Technical education"—Government and agricultural education to the higher classes in India. public support needed.

It urges that a dissemination of scientific agriculture among the agriculturists will bear better fruit, as it will lead to a larger production of food-grains in the country. It also pleads for the preservation of the agricultural labourers who are being ravaged by plague and malaria. It appreciates the services which the Government is rendering in this respect.

It suggests that a serious attempt should be made to divert the attention of young men from seeking service. Both the Government and the public should co-operate to bring about this desired object by the establishment of a large number of commercial colleges in the country and by starting industries and workshops for those young men who return from foreign countries after receiving a technical education, so that the knowledge of machinery may spread among those who are unable to go to foreign countries through caste-prejudices or the like. In conclusion it says co-operation of the Government and the people is badly needed.

BIDHUBHUSHAN MUKHERJEE,

Offg. Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 31st May 1913.

REPORT (PART II)
ON
NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL
FOR THE
Week ending Saturday, 31st May 1913.

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1915

NEWSPAPERS IN INDIA

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**LIST OF NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH
BY THE BENGAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH.**

[As it stood on 1st March 1913.]

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Amrita Bazar Patrika"	Calcutta	Daily	Kali Prasanna Chatterji, age 48, Brahmin	1,400
2	"Bengalee" ...	Ditto	Do.	Surendra Nath Banarji and Kali Nath Ray.	4,500
3	"Hindoo Patriot"	Ditto	Do.	Sarat Ch. Ray, Kayastha, age 45, years	1,000
4	"Indian Empire"	Ditto	Weekly	Shashi Bhushan Mukharji. age 55 years, Hindu, Brahmin.	2,000
5	"Indian Mirror"	Ditto	Daily	Satyendra Nath Sen	1,200
6	"Indian Nation"	Ditto	Weekly	Sailendra Ghosh, Kayastha, age 39 years	300
7	"Indian World"	Ditto	Do.	Prithvis Ch. Ray	500 to 1,000
8	"Mussalman"	Ditto	Do.	A. Rasul and M. Rahman	1,000 to 1,500
9	"Beis and Bayyet"	Ditto	Do.	Jogesh Chandra Datta, age 62 years	350
10	"Telegraph"	Ditto	Do.	Satyendra Kumar Basu	1,300
11	"Herald"	Dacca	Do.	Priya Nath Sen	2,000
12	"East"	Do.	Bi-weekly	Banga Ch. Ray	300
*13	"Calcutta Spectator"	Calcutta	Weekly	Lalit Mohan Ghosal	

* To be started on the 3rd June 1913.

BY THE BENGAL LITERARY SOCIETY
WITH
A PREFACE BY THE HON. MR. J. B. HARRISON

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

613. The war in the Balkans and the attitude of the European Powers towards the Turks have clearly demonstrated to the world, writes the *Mussalman*, that international morality is a mere expression without any meaning and that "might is right" is still the principle which determines the policy of nations even in this twentieth century and in countries where the people brag of their civilization and of their superiority over those who are not civilized according to the occidental standard. The fault of the Turks is that they are weak—weak because they could not resist the combined hostility of not only the Balkan Allies but of most of the European Powers too, and the punishment they have deserved is their practical expulsion from Europe. They have no justification to remain in Europe if they cannot successfully repulse the combined European aggression, and so they have been rightly driven away from that continent. True it is that Turkey still holds Constantinople and a strip of land on the sea of Marmora, but that is on sufferance. The conquest of Constantinople would bring about a conflict among the Europeans themselves, and hence the concession. It is of course true that the Chatalja lines are almost impregnable, but with the help of Russia the storming of Constantinople is not a very difficult task.

MUSSALMAN,
23rd May 1913.

614. The *Bengalee* writes that the European situation is not altogether free from anxiety. The victorious Balkan Allies are no longer friends or comrades-in-arms. Enmity

BENGALIAN,
23rd May 1913.

The European situation. is a much stronger cement than love; and the hatred of a common foe firmly knit together the widely divergent elements of the Balkan Confederacy. But no sooner was that foe vanquished, and the spoils of war had to be divided than the cement melted away, the union was dissolved, and the friendly feeling between brother Christians and Slavs gave place to the eager greed for the largest share of the booty. There was a little fight the other day between the Greeks and the Bulgarians, in which the Greeks are reported to have lost no less than 39 killed and 159 wounded. With the exception of the Bulgarian representative, none of the Peace Delegates have expressed their willingness to sign the peace preliminaries; and Sir Edward Grey on behalf of the Great Powers had to definitely tell them that those who were not prepared to sign had better leave England. This firm attitude may have the desired effect; but who knows? Selfishness is often a mad impulse, and may yet precipitate the Balkan Allies to acts of criminal folly. The situation appears critical, but the journal hopes for the best. The Balkan Allies in their united strength were more than a match for Turkey; but the Balkan Allies divided and distracted must bow to the will of united Europe. That is the plain reading of the situation; but it is never safe to prophesy. In the meantime one turns with interest to the utterances of the French Minister for foreign affairs. While these grave issues affecting the peace of Europe are being discussed with some little anxiety, M. Pichon declares that "France will never allow questions of Asiatic Turkey to be settled without her." "Still harping upon my daughter," in the words of Polonius, European Turkey has practically disappeared from the map of Europe and the Great Powers, with their professions of friendship for Turkey, are eager to seize this golden opportunity for the expansion of their influence and their trade, if not of their territory in the Asiatic dominions of Turkey. It is a sorry spectacle of international morality and an unhappy comment upon the vaunted superiority of the ethics of the West over those of the East.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

615. Reverting to this subject, the *Mussalman* remembers that in its issue of the 31st January last it stated that the information of a theft lodged at the Basirhat thana was not recorded by the thana people, and that the informant, who was a dafadar, was told that he had no business to

MUSSALMAN,
23rd May 1913.

come to lodge the information when the man robbed did not himself come forward. The journal referred to the matter in two subsequent issues, and a question was asked in the Bengal Legislative Council by the Hon'ble Maulvi Abul Kasem on the subject. As a result of the interpellation the Sub-Inspector who was in charge of the thana at the time was transferred and an enquiry in the theft case was ordered. A certain person was arrested and hauled up before the Subdivisional Magistrate under section 379, Indian Penal Code. The man was subsequently acquitted, apparently for insufficient evidence. In its issue of the 14th March last, when the journal again referred to the case, it said: "The occurrence was over a month and a half ago, and doubtless, the person robbed will not come forward to bring any charge or adduce any evidence." So this prognostication has come to be true. But the paper also remarked at the time that it failed to see why the police should not be made responsible for their neglect of duty, and it should like to know whether the authorities have found the police guilty of a gross dereliction of duty and, if so, what punishment has been meted out to the offending officer. If not, are the authorities in a mood to hold further enquiry into the matter? The paper knows there is evidence to prove that the thana people did deliberately refuse to take cognizance of the case, and it is the duty of the authorities to see that such neglect does not go unpunished.

TELEGRAPH,
24th May 1913.

616. The *Englishman*, or rather the Associated Press, is responsible for the following curious report, the ethics of which so far are beyond the comprehension of the *Tele-*

graph. It runs:—"A bomb explosion took place on Saturday night the 17th May in the Lawrence Gardens at Lahore, resulting in the death of an Indian chaprasi employed in the Library of the Gymkhana Club. How the man came to be where he was found, how the bomb exploded, or who placed the infernal machine in the gardens, is not so far known. The chaprasi had been in the service of the club for some eight years or so and was known as a reliable man. On Saturday night, at 9 o'clock, he was found on the road about a hundred yards from the Lawrence Hall, near the main entrance to the gardens from the Mall. The man was in agony and died about twenty minutes after the explosion. He was heard to exclaim "*Murgya!*" (killed) and "*Goli Sukhadhya*" (scorched by a bomb). He had terrible wounds in the left leg and right knee, while his chest and body were pierced as if by some sharp nails, probably from the infernal machine. A lamp on the side of the road, opposite to where the chaprasi lay prostrate, was found smashed to atoms. It is not known whether the chaprasi was himself carrying the bomb or whether he stumbled against it as it lay in his path. The man had finished his work at the library for the day and was supposed to be going home, but he appears to have taken an opposite route to that which led to his quarters. There was no trace of the bomb when the police arrived on the scene or of any explosive substance near the spot where the chaprasi died. Only a piece of paper containing some powder like opium was found beneath the body. To increase the difficulties of the police, rain came down in torrents shortly after the explosion." Well, the journal is not much inclined to believe that a bomb has brought about the death of the poor Mussalman chaprasi; and the paper believes, in the absence of greater details, the public would also share this opinion. If it was a bomb, either the deceased must have been carrying it or he must have stumbled upon the missile left in Lawrence Gardens for the destruction of somebody else. Judging from the position of the deceased it is rather a large order to believe that he himself was carrying the bomb. On the other hand, why should it be left at a spot where it might kill any person that might come along? Look at it from whatever light one might, there appears to be an element of mystery enveloping the incident which needs to be removed as early as possible.

TELEGRAPH,
24th May 1913.

617. So the authorities have decided upon launching another conspiracy case at Barisal in connection with the Nangalband and other dakaiti cases. Of course, the *Telegraph* is

The Barisal conspiracy case. not aware of the evidence in possession of the police, but the news cannot fail to shock the nerves and sensibilities of the people after the sad and sorry experience they have had of half a dozen conspiracy cases in the past. Already the greatest possible sensation has been created all over Eastern Bengal by

the numerous house-searches and arrests that have taken place. Most of the arrested persons, if not all of them, are young lads and youths of very respectable families. A special Magistrate is to be appointed for the trial, while busy preparations are in progress for accommodation of the court, witnesses, and Gurkha escort. The precautions taken by the police for the safe custody of these three dozen or so Bengali boys are of so serious a nature as to invest the whole proceedings with a gravity suited to a revolt or rebellion. Of course, prevention is always better than cure; and from this view-point it is better that there should be precautions than that any untoward incident should take place. The case was to be taken up on Monday the 26th May, but there would appear to be some delay in the perfecting of preparations. Mr. N. Gupta is among the Crown Counsel; and perhaps some of the highest police officers will be present to watch the proceedings and help in the conduct of the prosecution. The journal has, however, not yet heard of the arrangements made by the friends and relatives of the accused youths for their defence. The paper sincerely hopes that these will be sufficient and satisfactory and that the prosecution will be conducted in that fair spirit for which the British Government is so deservedly respected. Both the court and the conductors of the prosecution should always keep before their mind's eye that noble maxim of British jurisprudence, that better far a hundred criminals escaped than one innocent person suffered.

618. The so-called Barisal conspiracy case has advanced one step further, as will be seen from the telegram of the

The Barisal conspiracy case.

Amrita Bazar Patrika's correspondent. Thirty-two

accused were taken to the court of the District Magistrate on Monday, when the prosecuting pleader prayed for time on the ground that seven accused were still in different jails and some had been absconding. The prayer was of course granted, and the case will be opened on the 10th of June. Applications for bail on behalf of the 16 accused were refused, but the journal does not know on what grounds. A fresh petition for copies of petition of complaint and Government sanction was submitted, and, the paper is glad to find, it was granted this time. Babu Hemendra Kumar Mukhoty, Head Master of the Noapara High School, an accused in the case, brought certain complaints to the notice of the Magistrate, who directed the Assistant Magistrate to hold a personal enquiry. The journal hopes a full report of the enquiry with the result will be published for public information.

619. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the *Statesman* is fretting and foaming furiously at the outrageous conduct

The *Statesman* and the conspiracy case.

of the Indian section of the press. And what is the sum-total of its offence? Why, it is no less

grave than (a) deploring the recrudescence of promiscuous house-searches in East Bengal followed by the initiation of a crop of prosecutions under the Conspiracy Law and (b) imploring His Excellency the Governor to take the leading strings in his own hand and divest the same of all needless harshness and stringency, which is tantamount to prejudging them as guilty before the trial. No doubt these are very grave sins in the eyes of this contemporary, and the Indian journals are accused of "expressing an opinion respecting the innocence or guilt of the persons charged." The baby-like simplicity of such statements would be amusing, if they were not mischievous. When persons are indiscriminately arrested and their houses searched and turned topsy-turvy, when they are bound and pinioned like the most hardened felons, when they are surrounded with armed police and Gurkhas, when their legitimate applications for being furnished with the copy of complaints and Government order sanctioning their prosecution are summarily rejected and their prayer for bail refused, *then* they are not prejudged, then they must be taken as being treated with an open mind and most fairly. All these, this baby, in the plenitude of its naivete, seriously maintains are perfectly just and proper, and only a foretaste of the "fair trial" that is awaiting them! But as soon as the public, who from bitter past experience know how prosecutions initiated with such temper and needless severity are conducted, and terminated, pray for a more clement and less severe treatment of the accused unless they are proved guilty, it is *then* that the offence of prejudging is perpetrated! Again,

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
26th May 1912.

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
26th May 1912.

when people who, from a like bitter experience in numerous past political cases remember the difference in trials by a Special Magistrate and a tribunal constituted from among the High Court, and pray for the better and higher forum—and that under the law in force—they are charged with thwarting the course of justice. But every party to whom truth is of some value, who is not blinded by bias and perversity and who had an opportunity of studying the course of trials in the courts of the so-called "Special Magistrates," will readily see how far the apprehension that in such cases "the police have everything their own way" has any foundation or not. This, however, is now a matter of history, and the newspaper files of the past few years will show its truth or otherwise. Who are they asks the journal that are being affected by the repeated dakaities in the Province? Not the *Statesman* or any of his friends and relatives? The *Statesman* office was never broken into by dakaits, nor does he own any properties, self-acquired or ancestral, in the tracts infested by these dakaits. It is the helpless and disarmed people of Bengal. How is it, then, that the very same people are expressing greater apprehension of these police searches and arrests, these trials by Special Magistrates than the dakaits themselves? The toad under the harrow knows exactly where each footmark goes, and if the apprehensions of the party affected afford any criterion, one need not go far to explain their genesis. It is the people who are doubly affected, first by the dakaities and secondly by misguided executive zeal, that are praying for mercy and clemency from a Governor whom they know to be blessed by Providence with a wise head and a kind heart. What business have unconcerned and unaffected outsiders to come in the way and muddle the wells of popular prayers with the stick of misrepresentation? How short memories some people have! Consider the following passage of the *Statesman* in this connection:—"It is inconceivable that they will not receive a fair trial, and that ample opportunity will not be afforded them for preparing their defence. The police authorities who have caused the arrests to be made, and who will be called upon to substantiate the charges which they may bring forward, have accepted a serious responsibility, but Lord Carmichael would take upon himself a still graver one if he summarily directed the abandonment of the proceedings and the release of the accused." What awful presumption! What supreme confidence in the infallibility and immaculateness of the lower executive! And yet this very votary sang in quite a different tone, which is still ringing in the public ears, when an object of warm affection was passed over in the matter of a public appointment. Then the cup of righteous indignation was brimming over and the most bellicose epithets were hurled against executive officers much more highly placed. But perhaps the *Statesman* would have the public believe that the higher executive is more irresponsible and more prone to vagaries than the mufassal police who embody the quintessence of all ideas of responsibility, justice and fair dealing. Alas, that the uncompromising and relentless critic of the slaughterers of Mr. James (at the altar of Mr. Hornell) should allow his rigid ethics such a terrible backsliding, because those affected in the present case are only Indian people! The *Statesman* has as a curious idea, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* goes on to remark in its issue of the 29th May, of cases which are *sub judice*. The alleged Barisal conspiracy case is in the hands of the police and not before any judicial court. What some Indian journals did in this connection was to take exception to certain police methods of house-searches and of arresting and treating the accused, not excluding even military display;—they had not one word in respect of the merits of the case. And this, according to the Chowringhee paper, is commenting on a case which is *sub judice* and obstructing the course of justice! But how can the case be *sub judice*, when its trial has yet to commence? And what is the *Statesman* itself doing? It is justifying the proceedings of the police in arresting people and treating them like worst criminals, though they are not tried and convicted; but this is of course not obstructing the course of justice! The *Statesman* has also a strange conception of honest and independent journalism. It is to trample down the weak and lick the dust from the feet of the strong. "Verily journalism is an imposture," as Rudyard Kipling has it in his "From Sea to Sea."

BENGALUR,
20th May 1913.

620. Referring to the announcement of the *Englishman* that the conspiracy trial has been postponed till the 6th of June, the *Bengalee* only hopes that sober counsels

The conspiracy trial.

will prevail and that the intended trial will be eventually abandoned. It has been said by some of the semi-official newspapers that the advice of the Law officers of the Crown has been taken, and that the prosecution has been started with their full concurrence. The journal desires to speak of the Law officers of the Crown with the utmost respect; but unfortunately past reminiscences obtrude themselves upon the memory and the journal cannot forget in the Midnapore conspiracy case, the Law officers of the Crown were consulted and the case was started under their advice and guidance, but it broke down in the most hapless manner. The police, in that case, were allowed to have the upper hand, the effects of the cross-examination of the evidence to be tendered were apparently not sufficiently considered, and the strength of the case for the accused ignored. What guarantee is there that the blunders of the Midnapore case will not be repeated? What guarantee is there that there will not be some revelation as to the methods followed in the collection of evidence and the treatment of prisoners, which may produce a startling effect upon the public mind? Experience brings wisdom, and no doubt the authorities have learnt something from the Midnapore case. Their motives, at least of those who are in the highest rung of the official ladder, none will question. But are they in a position to effectively control and supervise the work of their somewhat ignorant and inefficient subordinates, oftentimes carrying on their operations at a distance and away from their gaze? The report of the evidence upon which the Law officers and the superior authorities have to proceed will be the report of these subordinate officers, the brunt of the work will fall upon them—the whole fabric, indeed, has to be substantially built up by them—and the work will extend, as in this conspiracy case, over a wide area. How unsatisfactory this work was, was clearly demonstrated in the Midnapore case. In other conspiracy cases, too, the number of acquittals was considerable as testifying to the inefficient character of the work done. Does the Government propose again to divide the country into two opposing camps, with all its dire results, by starting this conspiracy trial? There is nothing which the public view with greater anxiety and concern, leavened with a feeling of mistrust, than a conspiracy trial. The law of conspiracy is the most unsatisfactory feature of the British system. It is a relic of mediæval times; and there have been happily so few cases of conspiracy against the established Government in England that there has been no general outcry against it and no serious attempt at reform. The highest authorities have spoken as to the unsatisfactory character of this law; and the journal therefore views with alarm and anxiety this law put into operation in a remote town in East Bengal which will deprive the proceedings of a due measure of publicity and the accused of the benefits of the best legal assistance available. If the case were tried by the Special Tribunal of the High Court, the best legal assistance would have been obtained and the fullest publicity would have been secured for the proceedings. The Government is bound to consider the case not only from the point of view of the prosecution, but also of the accused. Justice is what the Government wants, and justice will be best secured by a trial in Calcutta and by the Special Tribunal of the High Court, created by the Government for this very purpose. These remarks apply only in the event of the case being proceeded with.

621. What the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* and the *Bengalee* appear to be harping on writes the *Indian Mirror*, is that the conspiracy case should be dropped. And what are

Ibid.

their grounds? Absolutely none that can stand the test of judicial reasoning. The case has been started after mature deliberation. The police, it would appear, suspected the existence of a seditious organization at Barisal as early as January last. All the materials in their possession were placed before the Government of Bengal, which, after consulting its legal officers, submitted the case to the Government of India for sanction. So, the prosecution cannot be called hasty: as a matter of fact the public knows nothing about the circumstances of the case. It is highly improper, therefore, that

INDIAN MIRROR,
20th May 1913.

any conclusion should be arrived at before a thorough judicial enquiry has been made. There can be no question that the accused will have a fair and impartial trial. It is possible that some of them may be proved innocent. Anyway the paper lays the strongest emphasis on it that no responsible journal should comment on the case one way or the other, before it has been tried judicially. The Government and the public are interested equally in the suppression of crime. The spirit of co-operation is most essential at this moment. Public leaders, instead of obstructing the course of justice, should strengthen the hands of the authorities so that justice may have its due. The case which has been instituted is far too serious to be dropped, simply because a couple of journals wish it. In the interests of the suspected persons themselves, there should be a full judicial enquiry. It is the duty of every well-disposed person therefore to facilitate the course of justice.

BENGALUR,
30th May 1913.

622. On the 29th May the *Bengalee* published the names of the accused in the Barisal conspiracy case. Of the 34 accused, no less than 23, i.e., about two-thirds are under the age of 20, and among them the ages of 9 vary from

16 to 17. And these youngsters are charged with conspiracy to wage war against the King-Emperor and waging such war with a view to deprive His Majesty of the sovereignty of British India! The journal cannot credit those who instituted these proceedings with the possession of a sense of humour. It is almost absurd to think of a batch of young men in their teens, many of them yet in their school, conspiring to overthrow this majestic fabric of Empire, deep-rooted in the hearts of the people. If the accused were suspected of dakaiti and other similar crimes, the ordinary provisions of the law should have been set in motion and the country spared the spectacle of a political trial in which the bulk of the accused are boys under 20.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BENGALUR,
26th May 1913.

623. In adverting to the resolution of Government published in the Bombay Government *Gazette* giving the details of a scheme for the judicial training of members of the Indian Civil Service and of the Provincial Service in both its branches, the *Bengalee* writes that the resolution is the outcome of the agitation which has taken place, especially in England. Men like Sir Henry Thoby Prinsep and Sir Robert Fulton, ex-members of the Civil Service who had been Judges of the High Court, strongly emphasized in leading articles, in the periodical press, the defective judicial training of the members of the Civil Service. They called attention to a state of things that is admitted and is even notorious. In the mufassal the Bar is daily becoming stronger, while the Bench remains, what it has always been, presided over by Civilian Judges, whose knowledge of law and of legal procedure compares unfavourably with the lawyers who practise in their courts. The *Bengalee* hears of Vakil Raj—and the term is generally used in a political sense. But here in the courts of law there is truly a Vakil Raj, with practitioners highly intelligent and capable, with whom, for learning and ability the Judges are not able to hold their own. This is the growing weakness of the judicial system; and behind all the controversy that has taken place on the subject, there is this outstanding fact which the official scribes are unwilling to admit but which is familiar to every litigant in the land. For the efficiency of the judicial Bench this state of things has to be remedied. The resolution of the Government is a tacit acknowledgment of the unsatisfactory state of things which now prevails and of the need for improvement in the efficiency of the judicial bench. So far as the Provincial Judicial Service is concerned, its competency has never been called in question. What now do the proposals of the Government amount to? The sum total of the legal training which it proposes for Civilian Judges is a call to the Bar after passing the examinations with some distinction, supplemented by reading in the chambers of a Barrister. For this purpose the Government is prepared to give a bounty. But why give a bounty at all and pay money out of the tax-payer's fund, when you can get the genuine article without paying any subsidy of any kind? All the training which the Government wants to

secure for its Civilian Judges is the training of every well-equipped barrister, who, besides, acquires experience in the actual practice of his profession. Suitable legal training is admitted by the Government in the proposals which it makes, to be highly desirable, if not an absolutely indispensable qualification, on the part of an Indian Judge. With this admission made though indirectly yet none the less made clearly and definitely, the journal is entitled to ask the Government to follow the advice which the country and the Indian National Congress have so persistently given, viz., to recruit Indian Judges from among trained lawyers. That is the only solution of the problem, and there is no other. The Government is advancing slowly, after the manner of all governments, towards the acceptance of the views of the country. It has risen to an appreciation of the comparative inefficiency of the Civilian Judges. It recognizes the true solution. But it hesitates to accept it at once. But let the Government realize that patchwork of this kind is only a halting-stage, and that, sooner or later, it must move forward and complete the reform in the only way possible, by the recruitment of trained lawyers as Indian Judges.

624. Commenting again on the judgment which was delivered by Mr. E.

The case of Sanjibani Dasi.

Keays, Second Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, in the case of Sanjibani Dasi against Bailiffs Meredith and Bomeswitch, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks that there is another aspect of the case not touched upon till now, but which needs more than a passing notice. Here was a Hindu married poor lady who complained of assault against two bailiffs of the Small Cause Court, Calcutta, but it was the latter who enlisted the practical sympathy of the Government! Does it not then come to this, that to kill a little gnat, the omnipotent Government found it necessary to level a gun as was shown from its engaging Mr. P. L. Ray, Counsel, on behalf of the accused? What justification is there for this expenditure of public money and that to help an assailant of a helpless lady? And the journal understands that a mint of money has been spent by the Government in this case. Will any member of the Bengal Legislative Council put a question in Council with a view to elicit the reason that led the Government to engage a counsel, on behalf of the accused, at the expense of the tax-payers?

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PATRIKA.
26th May 1912.

(c)—Jails.

625. There will be, the *Bengalee* is sure, a general feeling of disappointment at the Royal clemency not having been extended to Mr. Tilak and the rest of his sentence

Mr. Tilak.

not remitted. It is to be borne in mind that if Mr. Tilak had undergone the sentence originally passed on him—transportation for six years—he would by this time have been released owing to the remission of sentence which he would have obtained through good conduct. The sentence was commuted into one of simple imprisonment, and in consequence Mr. Tilak, through no fault of his own, has lost the benefit of remission to which otherwise he would have been entitled. The change in the form of the sentence was undoubtedly inspired by the highest of motives, and it is but right to add that Mr. Tilak has been confined in a bungalow at Mandalay and is under police surveillance. The journal is bound to hold that it would have been an act of justice and clemency alike if the sentence had been dealt with for purposes of remission as if it had been one of rigorous imprisonment.

BENGALURU.
27th May 1912.

(d)—Education.

626. The Government of Bihar has issued, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, a Resolution on the embryo Bihar University. The personnel of the Committee furnishes

The new University for Bihar.

queer reading. Mr. Archbold is following Mr. Nathan from Dacca as his shadow. Why? Probably because he is an expert in University matters. But none of the brilliant and veteran graduates that may be found in the Patna, Muzafferpur and Bhagalpur Bars are on the Committee. Why? Probably because being finished products of the University, they might have

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thrown much useful light on University matters. Again, there is only one solitary Bengali—the Principal of a second grade Bihar College—that has to be telescoped like the sun-spot to be brought within the range of the visual organs. But the Principal of the Bhagalpur T. N. Jubilee College—a first grade college—is *non-est*. Why? Well we won't guess any more reasons. All the journal means to say is that there should be at least a semblance of consistency in such matters. Then the paper sees that the venue of the proposed University is to be Patna or some place close to it. Here again the authorities, in the excess of their love for Patna, are forgetting the other aspects of the question. If they are after all to construct a separate University for the new province, they could have at least done better than choosing a notorious hot-bed of plague and other scourges. To compel the youths of the province to be drawn together in such a place for their education is to incur a very grave responsibility. Would not Ranchi have furnished a safer and healthier site for the purpose? If the premier English Universities can be located away from the centre of Government in England, could not the Bihar University be located away from the Bihar capital?

BENGALUR,
20th May 1913.

627. The *Bengalee* understands that Rai Saheb Haradhon Basu, Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, is about to retire from the service of Government and that it is proposed to appoint

A jobbery in the Education Department.

Mr. W. B. Finnigan, an Assistant in the same office, on a salary of Rs. 200 a month. Mr. Finnigan is a pure European. As far as the journal is aware, a European is not to be appointed, except with the sanction of the Government of India, to appointments which carry a salary of upwards of Rs. 200 a month, the salary attached to the Personal Assistantship being Rs. 300 to Rs. 500 a month. To the best of the journal's knowledge there are highly qualified Indian gentlemen in the Education Department who are quite fit to succeed Rai Saheb Haradhon Basu. The paper can at least mention two names—one of them being Babu Aghore Nath Banarji, M.A., Assistant Inspector of Schools, Burdwan Division. He was formerly Head Assistant in the Director's office. It is in recognition of his meritorious work that Sir Archdale Earle promoted him to the Provincial Educational Service. Babu Pramatha Nath Chatarji, M.A., Additional Inspector of Schools, Burdwan, is another deserving officer. He was for a long time employed under Mr. Orange in the Education Department of the Government of India. He was highly thought of by his superior officers. In the circumstances the journal fails to see why a European who is quite a young man of about 30 years of age should be appointed to a post which has all along been held by an Indian. If Mr. Finnigan is appointed to the post, he will hold it for the next 25 years. The paper has no objection to Mr. Finnigan personally, but on principle it is opposed to his appointment. The journal appeals to Lord Carmichael's sense of justice and hopes His Excellency will not permit a jobbery of this kind being perpetrated in the Education Department.

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PATRIKA,
27th May 1913.

628. Reverting to this subject, the *Amrita Basar Patrika* says that in 1910 the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam took up the matter. The curriculum in

Secondary education.

force was strongly condemned and the Resolution of the Government went on to say that "it involved an unduly large amount of book-work for young children and its subjects were in many respects so far removed from the ordinary experience of the pupils as to be difficult for their comprehension and unsuitable for their training." The Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam after due consideration adopted a much simplified course and framed the curricula of rural and urban schools on totally different lines. It is stated to be the intention of Mr. Hornell to bring the systems of Eastern and Western Bengal in harmony. It will be remembered that he took a prominent part in revising the English syllabus in 1907, and the journal hopes that he as the head of the department will now complete the work which he began in a subordinate capacity. The paper would urge him to consider the merits of the Eastern Bengal curriculum, which is believed to be a great improvement on that in force in Western Bengal. It is of the utmost necessity that the curricula of the two Bengals should be uniform. The partition is gone and with it must go the innumerable minor partitions that still obtain in the various

departments. The serious hardships that entail on boys and their guardians on account of a dissimilarity of course between Eastern and Western Bengal and between one division and another are too well known, and the journal has already drawn public attention to them. Under these circumstances the paper hopes that Mr. Hornell will give his earliest attention to the subject and bring the curricula of secondary schools in accord with reason and common sense.

629. Lately, remarks the *Amrita Basar Patrika*, Major Leonard Roberts wrote a letter to an Anglo-Indian contemporary that arrangements for inaugurating the School for Tropical Medicine are well advanced and are expected to be a *jait accompli* by the commencement of the next year. It will be remembered that there already exists a school for that purpose in London. The authorities have probably now seen the absurdity of a school for tropical diseases within the frigid zone, and are going to make Calcutta the venue of the new school. Let the aspiring tropical expert now, suggests the journal, reside with his would-be patients in their own jungly and water-locked villages—for the bulk of them reside in the villages and not in towns,—drink the muddy water with them during summer, see with their own eyes the many festering sores under the crust of their so-called prosperity,—the quality and the quantity of the food they take, the habiliments they wear, their habits, daily life, etc. Let them watch on the spot the exact season when malaria commences, the peculiarity of the tracts in which it rages most virulently, how the actual sufferers behave during the attack, how far quinine or any other form of treatment benefits them or is relished by them, what other aid than mere administration of drugs is more urgently required by them, and so forth. It is then, and then alone that their researches will be worth the name and their title as experts well earned. This method will, the journal assures them, thoroughly preserve them from many a hoary fallacy with which the majority of the so-called experts are obsessed now. Being with the actual sufferers and partaking of their sufferings, they will be able to carry on their researches more for the sake of a radical and effective amelioration of the condition of the sufferers than for the mere intellectual pleasure of spinning out, from a loop-hole of retreat, theory after theory from their cerebral cocoons.

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PATRIKA.
30th May 1913.

(a)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

630. While His Excellency the Governor will do all that is possible to find a solution of the problem of water-supply, Chittagong's Water-supply. evidently there are others, the *Herald* is of opinion, who would oftener than not furnish illustrations of how not to do it. The journal points out such an instance in the case of the Chittagong Municipality. Chittagong has, for many years, been crying over its want of a pure water-supply, but so far it has been practically a cry in the wilderness. No opportunity has been missed to represent the matter to the Government but nothing beyond repeated hopes and assurances has as yet been obtained. No doubt experiments are being made and hopes are being held out, but they have not solved the difficulty and there is no knowing when they will. The people want a pure supply of drinking water and they want it badly. What this means in a sultry season, when there is not even a drop of rain for months together, what, again, the want of pure drinking water means to a malaria-stricken people as they in Chittagong are, can easily be understood. Of course it is a problem for the Municipality to solve. And it will be news to many that the Chittagong Municipality retains the services of a highly paid European Engineer-Secretary, and it also enjoys an annual subsidy of Rs. 20,000 from the Government. And yet there is little room for wonder that things are not other than what they are. For the strange truth in that of the Government subsidy of Rs. 20,000, Rs. 10,000 goes to maintain the European Engineer-Secretary. But the beauty of this arrangement lies in the fact that this valuable possession of the Chittagong Municipality, Mr. Henderson, is not a qualified Engineer. Moreover, he does not know Bengali and cannot mix freely

HERALD,
24th May 1913.

with the people and know their grievances. The journal's object in bringing to light these unpleasant things is simply to show that important reforms are needed in the Chittagong Municipality. If the problem of a pure supply of water at Chittagong has not so far been solved, it is not because there is no solution possible, but evidently because there is something rotten in the State of Denmark.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

MUSALMAN,
23rd May 1913.

631. The *Mussalman* has been hearing for some time of an ill-feeling between Hindus and Muhammadans at Ullapara in the district of Pabna. It was alleged in the newspapers that some Maulvis had incited the Muhammadans against the Hindus and that the former had ceased to work for the latter. The journal was curious to know the cause underlying all this, and it understands from information received lately that the dispute is more economic than communal, though subsequently it has taken the shape of a Hindu-Moslem quarrel. The dispute is between Jotdars (landholders of a certain class) and Bargadars (tenants-at-will, paying rent in kind). The Jotdars at Ullapara are generally Hindus and the Bargadars Mussalmans, and it appears that a Bargadar is to give to his landlord (Jotdar) half the produce of the land held by him and, in addition, he is to carry the landlord's share to his house. This too involves some expense and so practically he does not get half the share of the produce. The system, under the present conditions when the price of labour is so high, is not as profitable to the Bargadars as other vocations which some of them have already adopted. The journal is given to understand that by working as day-labourers or by keeping petty shops with a very small capital, say of Rs. 20 or Rs. 50 only, they are able to earn much more than they do under the Bargadari system, and accordingly they asked their Jotdars not to insist on their shares being carried to their houses by the Bargadars at their expense. This the Jotdars refused to comply with, and hence the beginning of the quarrel. The paper is sorry to note that the Hindus magnified this as the boycott of Hindus by the Muhammadans and asked barbers, washermen, etc. (who are all Hindus), not to serve the Muhammadans. The Muhammadans too ceased to do any menial work, such as construction of a room for *accouchement*, carrying dead cattle, etc., for the Hindus, and the climax was reached when a respectable Maulvi who, on invitation, attended some festival at the house of the Hindu zamindars at Ullapara, and took his seat on a chair, was forced to leave the seat and thus most deliberately insulted. Thus the agrarian dispute turned into a bitter Hindu-Moslem quarrel, and the journal is astonished to find that the correspondents of Hindu newspapers have all along been trying to throw the entire blame on the Muhammadans, though their grievances are genuine and though it is they who have been wronged.

(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
26th May 1913.

632. Referring to the Jessore-Jhenida light railway which will be opened by the middle of July, the *Amrita Basar Patrika* remarks that this new railway line is yet another example of what Indian capital, talent, and labour are capable of achieving. The Managing Agents are Messrs. K. M. De & Co. The construction of the line was put in charge of Babu Debendra Nath Ball, the well-known engineer who had worked with considerable credit under the B. C. Railway, E. B. S. Railway, D. R. Railway and Messrs. Martin & Co. The senior Government Inspector of Railways inspected the line a few days ago and expressed great satisfaction at the way the whole thing has been accomplished by Mr. Ball. The journal mentions in this connection the able assistance rendered to Mr. Ball by two assistant Engineers, Mr. A. P. Ray, B.Sc. (Glasgow) and Mr. S. C. Bhattacharji, B.A., B.E., both young Bengalis who, but for their skin, might have obtained any post of responsibility in the public service of the country.

(h)—General.

633. When the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* received the telegram of its Bogra correspondent reporting the "Act of vandalism"

"Act of vandalism"—the Bogra sensation.

on the part of the Hindu District Magistrate, the journal was simply dazed. For it is incredible that a highly placed and responsible official should, on the petition of some unreasonable folk, have the decorative figure of the goddess of learning pulled down from the Public Library by Muhammadan coolies. It is the more so as it is reported to be done by a Magistrate who is a Hindu Brahmin—and especially one of the reputation of Mr. N. L. Bagchi. The journal now sees, however, from the last telegram on the subject that the people have felt this outrage on their religious feelings keenly and are giving public expression to their outraged feelings. The least that can be said of the Magistrate's conduct is that he has in this case overdone his part.

634. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* thinks that the following are the main points in connection with the "Act of vandalism" perpetrated at Bogra. Was the decorative figure

Ibid.

of the goddess of learning put up at the Public Library building with a view to hurt Muhammadan feelings? That could not be the case; for, Kumar Ramendra Krishna, the late Magistrate of Bogra, who had, in fact, set up the figure, was the last person to associate himself with a movement which was likely to be offensive to the Mussalmans. Secondly, was the Muhammadan objection to the figure being set up in the Public Library hall a *bona fide* one? If so, why did not the Muhammadan members of the Library Committee protest when Kumar Ramendra Krishna put up the figure? They, however, kept quiet till he left the station, and placed their grievance before his successor who, a new man, apparently knew nothing of the real situation and was somehow or other persuaded to believe that there would be a breach of the peace between the two communities if it were not removed. Thirdly, the executive interference in this matter was unwarranted. There was a Library Committee and the dispute should have been referred to it for disposal. Fourthly, it should have occurred to Babu Nanda Lal Bagchi, the officiating Magistrate, that by pulling down the image he would humiliate not only the hundred members of the Library Committee but also Kumar Ramendra Krishna, a colleague of his. Fifthly, as a Hindu, Mr. Bagchi should have known and explained to the Muhammadan objectors that as the image of the goddess of learning was not consecrated and set up for worship but as a mere ornamental figure, they could have no earthly objection to its presence in the Library hall. Sixthly, he had absolutely no ground for apprehending a breach of the peace and submitting the matter to the higher authorities. And lastly, the Commissioner in consultation with the Chief Secretary should not have sent a mandate to the Magistrate to pull down the figure without making a sifting enquiry into the matter, as it was bound to create a bad feeling between Hindus and Mussalmans. In fact if the so-called breach of amity between the Hindu and Muhammadan communities of Bogra owing to the continuance of the figure was a pure fiction, its wanton removal under the circumstances disclosed has converted it into a stern reality. It should have occurred to those who prevailed upon the Magistrate to remove it that no educated Hindu, much less a trusted officer of Government like Kumar Ramendra Krishna, would have ever thought of putting up the decorative figure there had it been calculated to wound Mussalman feelings in any way.

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III.—LEGISLATION.

635. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"Freedom at home and despotism abroad are two incompatible things.

Freedom at home and despotism abroad.

The higher perceptions of a nation, however free and liberal-minded, are bound to be deadened if they play the conqueror and treat the subject people differently from their

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own. That is the moral law of God and no nation, however mighty, can violate it with impunity. At home they would govern themselves, but in their dependencies the people would not be allowed any voice in the administration of their own country. The ultimate result of such an arrangement is that the wrongs done to the dependent race recoil on the ruling nation under whose benign protection the latter should grow and not wither. The Parliamentary Statute of 1833, Queen Victoria's Proclamation of 1858, and the declarations of some of the highest English statesmen leave no room for doubt that England's mission in this country was grand and noble. It was to help the Indians to rise to their former glorious position. The Indians welcomed their new rulers with open arms and placed themselves unreservedly under their care. How devotedly attached they were to British rule was shown by their conduct during the dark days of the Sepoy Mutiny in 1857 when, but for their unflinching loyalty, the great Indian Empire might have slipped out of their hands. This unexampled token of affection displayed by the people of India was forgotten by the authorities in the course of twelve years and a policy of repression inaugurated by them which, decade after decade, became more and more pitiless, till at the present time it sits like a dreadful nightmare on the breasts of the loyal Indian subjects of the British Crown. In the seventies the Sedition Law was first brought into existence in India, and, along with it, were introduced such dangerous innovations as appeal against acquittal, enhancement of punishment by the Appellate Court knocking down the verdict of the jury as final, the Dramatic Performances Act, the Arms Act the Vernacular Press Act, etc., all dealing a blow to the liberty of the subject. In the eighties were passed the Ilbert Bill, which legalised the racial superiority of the Anglo-Indian over the Indians by conferring the privilege of jury trial on the former before a District Magistrate, as well as the Official Secrets Act. In the nineties was passed the Age of Consent Act which convulsed the Indian community from one end of the country to the other; the sedition law was amended and made so comprehensive as to render any one liable to be charged with 'disaffection' who showed 'want of affection' to Government; sections 108 and 109 of the Criminal Code were also amended and the executive authorities empowered to bind over public speakers and men of bad repute at their sweet will and demand heavy sureties from them, their failure to find the same rendering them liable to be sent to jail for two years without any trial. And the repressive measures introduced here during the last twelve years are still fresh in the minds of the public. The obsolete Regulation III of 1818 was revived and leading men of the country were deported without being charged or tried. The Public Meetings Act authorized the police to break up a meeting by force when it seemed disagreeable to them. The Explosives Act is a terrible engine of oppression, and this was proved conclusively by the famous Midnapore case. Any explosive article found in a house makes its owner liable to be hauled up and put in jail unless he can satisfactorily explain its presence. There is then the Act constituting a Special Court for trying political offenders *in camera*, depriving them of the privileges of ordinary criminals, as well as the new Press Act which has placed the Indian Press at the absolute mercy of the Local Governments. And last, though not the least, is the Conspiracy Act, passed only in March last, the terrors of which the alleged Barisal conspiracy case is displaying to the consternation of the general public. With so many Damocles' swords hanging over the heads of the people, the liberty of Indian subjects is practically a myth. Any one of them may be caught by the hip and consigned to prison without rhyme or reason. If they are yet free, it is because the rulers are better than the laws they have to administer."

L. N. BIRD,
Special Assistant.

9, ELYSIUM ROW,
CALCUTTA,

The 31st May 1913.